

**City of Chula Vista
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes**

**Thursday – 6:30 p.m.
Public Works Operations Lunch Room**

**October 21, 2004
1800 Maxwell Road**

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair, Larry Perondi at 6:31

Staff Present: Buck Martin, Director of Recreation
 Dave Byers, Director of Public Works Operations
 Shauna Stokes, Assistant Recreation Director
 Robert Beamon, Principal Management Analyst
 Ed Hall, Principal Recreation Manager
 Tom Class, Parks Manager
 Margarita Cellano, Recording Secretary

Guests: Sandy Duncan, Crossroads II
 Susan Watry, Crossroads II
 Brian Jackson, American Golf

1. Roll Call/Motion to Excuse

Members Present: Commissioner Ramos, Perondi, Rios, Cien-Mayer, Weidner (arrived at 6:39 p.m.)

Members Absent: Chair Salcido

MSC (Rios/Ramos Vote 4-0-0-1 to excuse Chair Salcido from tonight's meeting)

2. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes of August 19, 2004** – Table to November meeting.
- b. Renaming Friendship Park after Former Mayor Will T. Hyde – **(MSC Perondi/Ramos Vote 4-0-1-1 with Salcido absent and Weidner late to accept Renaming Friendship Park after Former Mayor Will T. Hyde and name it Will T. Hyde Friendship Park).**

Vice-Chair Perondi informed the Commission that Mayor Will T. Hyde was a great person, a great citizen of Chula Vista, a great educator; and this venture would be a great honor to Will Hyde.

Ms. Sandy Duncan of Chula Vista spoke briefly about former Mayor Will T. Hyde. She informed the Commission that he was a founding member of the first Crossroads Organization, a long time civic activist in Chula Vista, he also provided his leadership that helped save Friendship Park from development, and he also gathered 4,000 signatures to oppose elimination of the parkland, where the new police department was being contemplated.

A Memorial Service was held for Will Hyde at Friendship Park. Shortly thereafter, Councilmember Mary Salas suggested that a memorial be placed at this park in remembrance of him, and a committee (The Will Hyde Memorial Committee was formed). Ms. Duncan also stated that it is fitting that a park be named in honor of Will Hyde because he loved nature, the outdoors, and he was dedicated to preserving parkland and open space for the citizens of Chula Vista. He was also a patriot serving in the military for 23 years, a schoolteacher at Sweetwater High School and served the Chula Vista Community in many ways. He started out as a Planning Commissioner in the 1960s, City Council and Mayor in 1970s, and helped make Chula Vista Library a reality, and fought to keep Friendship Park from being eliminated to make way for the new Police Station.

A quote from Greg Cox, San Diego County Supervisor, who served on the Council with Will Hyde in the late 1970s, "Will was a tremendously talented man whose heart and soul focused on making Chula Vista a better place to live. He truly believed that people should get involved in the community. Even after he left as Mayor he was still actively involved in Chula Vista, until the day he died."

Ms. Duncan also went on to say that Will loved his community and loved Friendship Park, and stated that it would be appropriate that Friendship Park be renamed Will T Hyde Friendship Park, and that a monument be placed commemorating Will Hyde to honor him.

Discussion held on placing a commemorative monument in Friendship Park.

c. Consideration of Chula Vista Golf Course Greens Fee Increase by American Golf Corporation -

Mr. Dave Byers (Director of Public Works) informed the Commission that Shauna Stokes, Assistant Recreation Director, Tom Class, Parks Manager, and Bob Beamon, Principal Management Analyst conducted an analysis of the request submitted by American Golf (AG). Comparisons were made to other comparable golf courses, fees, amenities, maintenance levels, staff, to ensure courses were compatible.

Mr. Byers informed the Commission that about three months ago, AG increased their maintenance level from "Bronze" to "Silver". Staff determined in their analysis that in order for the City to recommend a fee increase, that this increased maintenance level was appropriate. Mr. Byers also stated that when he goes to Council, he would also be adding an amendment to the lease that will formally adopt the Silver standard as a maintenance level for the golf course.

He also informed the Commission that he felt it important for everyone to remember that the lease agreement names AG as the operator of the golf course. They are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the golf course. The only involvement that the City has under the lease is to ensure that they [AG] are complying with the maintenance standards that were set forth within the lease. This way the maintenance standards will be written down, and there won't be any confusion, and this is a win-win for everyone. AG has done a great job over the last couple of years. They added \$1.3-1.5 into the golf course, with the addition of a new irrigation system, new pumps, and new heads will be installed for better coverage. The Club House (Restaurant/Banquet Facility) was also renovated recently at a cost of \$500K. They have committed to continue to maintain the golf course at the Silver standard.

In addition Mr. Byers stated that it is staff's recommendation that the Commission accept the report with the recommendation to the City Council that the Council approve the Fee Increase.

Commissioner Weidner asked if input was received from the Woman's and Men's Club with regards to the Fee Increase.

Mr. Brian Jackson, Regional Manager for American Golf Course responded that a letters from past presidents of the Clubs were received in support of this venture. A meeting was also held with them informing them of the Fee Increases.

Vice-Chair Perondi asked if notices or information sent to the golfers?

Information was not sent in time to make the October newsletter, but it will be included in the November newsletter.

Commissioner Weidner stated that she would like the information of the fee increase to be sent to the Men's and Women's Club and posted at the golf course to include the specific date that this item is going to be on the City Council Agenda.

Commissioner Cien-Mayer stated that she was very impressed with the renovations of the Banquet Facility and the food was wonderful. In addition, friends of hers recently golfed at the golf course and commented on how well the greens were kept.

Commissioner Weidner asked if the Banquet Facility was large enough to hold a large group of people, for example for the annual dinner that the City holds at the San Diego Country Club.

Mr. Jackson responded that the Banquet Room holds a maximum of 250 people.

Commissioner Ramos talked about the Senior Card and asked if it was eliminated.

Mr. Byers responded that AG had proposed eliminating the Senior Card, but staff is recommending not eliminating it, and increasing the price slightly.

Mr. Jackson responded that AG agrees with staff's recommendation of a \$5 increase.

Discussion held on report prepared by staff, and the maintenance budget, staff costs difference between Chula Vista and Coronado. Coronado uses City staff and provides benefits, and Chula Vista does not provide staff for the maintenance of the golf course.

Discussion held on the day-to-day operation of the golf course and lease.

Mr. Jackson responded that the new standards are in the lease amendment and are very specific.

Mr. Byers also stated that the lease has been amended to reflect the new maintenance standards.

Vice-Chair Perondi asked if agreement had been signed with AG stipulating amendments.

Mr. Byers responded that AG has the lease agreement and amendments.

Discussion held on CIP for the golf course, and spending an additional \$94K on maintenance of the course, rebuilding 4-T boxes, and adding additional turf.

Vice-Chair Perondi asked if the Golf Cart paths would be cemented.

Mr. Jackson responded that the Golf Cart paths are being maintained pothole free and are in good shape.

Mr. Byers responded that AG has met all CIP projects originally called for in the lease agreement.

Vice-Chair Perondi asked about parking for golfers and those visiting the restaurant, and joggers using the parking.

Mr. Byers responded that AG and CVPD are working together on signage, and flyers are being distributed to patrons informing them that the parking is for golf patrons and restaurant patrons. Signs will be posted in the next few days.

In addition, a tow company will be in the area for the next 3-weekends for presence purposes and not towing anyone. Prior to the commencement of towing, AG will inform patrons using the parking lot.

MSC Weidner/Cien-Mayer (4-0-0-1 Salcido absent) to accept and recommend to the City Council to approve the fee increase in concurrence with lease agreement and with caveat that when this item is placed on the City Council Agenda that specific notification is given to the Men's and Women's Club and publicly noticed.

- d. Commission's endorsement and a letter of support for a grant for adaptive play equipment in Monteville Park –

Ms. Shauna Stokes, Assistant Recreation Director informed the Commission about a competitive grant for Monteville Park for adaptive play equipment.

(MSC Ramos/Weidner 4-0-0-1 Salcido absent to support letter of support for a grant for adaptive play equipment in Monteville Park and attach to the grant proposal)

- e. Reconsideration of Commission motion from August 19, 2004 Commission Meeting regarding the Chula Vista Golf Course – **Table to November Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.**

3. Information Items

- a. Council Information Item – Morning Lap Swim at Loma Verde and Parkway Pools
Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) briefly discussed the information item regarding morning lap swim.
- b. Council Information Item – Adding Security Gate at Rienstra Sports Complex – Mr. Byers (Director of Public Works) informed the Commission that the Information Item was for informational purposes.
- c. Handicapped Accessible Playground Equipment – Mr. Martin (Director of Recreation) briefly talked about the information item on playground equipment.

- 4. Unfinished Business - None
- 5. New Business - None
- 6. Written Communication - None
- 7. Commission Comments -

Commissioner Cien-Mayer thanked Mr. Martin for the tour of parks and facilities, and stated that she was very impressed with staff.

Commissioner Rios welcomed Commissioner Cien-Mayer to the Commission and asked for a status update on presentation conducted by Solana Beach Mayor.

Commissioner Ramos welcomed Commissioner Cien-Mayer to the Commission.

Commissioner Weidner welcomed Commissioner Cien-Mayer, and talked about the safety issue at Heritage Park.

Vice-Chair Perondi stated that he was happy that Commissioner Weidner's husband had returned from the Middle East, and also discussed an article about Club TC and wanted to point out that Chula Vista is a partner with Sweetwater Union High School District in this venture, and has great respect for staff and a great partnership for this program.

8. Staff Comments -

- a. Recreation Monthly Report – Mr. Martin talked about the monthly report that Margarita prepares for him. He also talked about the ICMA meeting held on 10/19 at Heritage Park Center. In addition, Mr. Martin informed the Commission of the recent promotions within the department. Victoria Tom was promoted to Recreation Supervisor III for Veteran's Park. Tony Ramos was promoted to Recreation Supervisor II for Heritage Park, Tim Farmer is the new Recreation Supervisor II for Adult Sports (was a Rec Leader), and Cathy Michel replaced Pam Zuniga, and Cathy is a great addition to our team.
- b. Public Works Monthly Report – Mr. Byers informed the Commission that Larry Eliason is the Parks and Open Space Manager, Tom Class is a Park Manager, and Agens Bernardo is Park Manager.

Hilltop Park was closed on Tuesday due to flooding.

9. Other

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Margarita Cellano